

AMENDMENTS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A hammermill feed device, the feed device comprising:

a generally uniformly cylindrical feed roller, the feed roller having a longitudinal axis, and a roller surface;

a plurality of gripper teeth positioned in rows along said roller surface, said rows of gripper teeth extending from left and right lateral edges of said feed roller toward-to a mid-circumferential center plane, in a generally chevron shaped arrangement, every row of said gripper teeth positioned non-perpendicular to said mid-circumferential center plane, whereby the angle of the rows on the left side of the mid-circumferential center plane are equal and opposite to the angle of the rows on the right side of the mid-circumferential center plane.

2. (Currently Amended) The hammermill feed device of claim 1 in which the rows are generally parallel to each other and aligned.

3. (Original) The hammermill feed device of claim 1 in which said gripper teeth are arranged in said rows in non-uniform teeth heights.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The hammermill feed device of claim 1 in which said rows ~~extend from said left and right lateral edges, and extend toward said mid circumferential center plane, and~~ have a non-congruent center portion of gripper teeth rows.
6. (Previously Presented) The hammermill feed device of claim 1 in which said rows of gripper teeth are angled from 60-30 degrees.
7. (Original) The hammermill feed device of claim 1 in which said gripper teeth extend from said roller surface in a direction not parallel to a line extending radially from the longitudinal axis of the feed roller.

8. (Currently Amended) A hammermill feed device, the feed device comprising:

a generally uniformly cylindrical feed roller, the feed roller having a longitudinal axis, and a roller surface;

a plurality of gripper teeth arranged in rows, said rows of gripper teeth extending from a left and right lateral edge of said feed roller toward to a mid-circumferential center plane in a general chevron shaped type of arrangement, with every row angled to be non perpendicular relative to said mid-circumferential center plane, the angle of the rows on the left side of the roller center plane being equal and opposite to the angle of the rows on the right side of the roller center plane, with said gripper teeth are configured with non-uniform teeth heights.

9. (Original) The hammermill feed device of claim 8 in which said gripper teeth are configured in a repeating pattern of relatively smaller teeth and relatively larger teeth.